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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Hiroaki OKAMOTO et al. Art Unit:

IA No.: PCT/JP99/00393

Washington, D.C.

IA Filed: January 29, 1999

U.S. App. No.:

(Not Yet Assigned)

August 3, 2000

National Filing Date:

(Not Yet Received)

For: METHOD OF FORMING...

Docket No.: OKAMOTO7

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Contemporaneous with the filing of this case and prior to calculation of the filing fee, kindly amend as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

After the title please insert the following paragraph:

-- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present application is the national stage under 35 U.S.C. 371 of PCT/JP99/00393, filed January 29, 1999. --

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 8, lines 1-2, delete "or 7".